Quarantine Bill to prevent entry of pests

1047. SHRI ABANI ROY: Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to introduce new Quarantine Bill to prevent entry of pests which are infected by diseases;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether due to inadequate testing and detection facilities, several pests infected with various diseases have been imported in the past few years, which has caused considerable damage to agricultural crops; and

(d) if so, the extent to which introduction of Quarantine Bill would check such entry?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) and (b) There was a proposal to establish a Plant Quarantine Authority through a separate Plant Quarantine Bill. However, the proposal has not been agreed to by the Ministry of Finance.

(c) No pest has been introduced because of inadequate testing and detection facilities;

(d) Question does not arise.

Fall in chilli prices in A.P.

1048. SHRI YADLAPATIVENKAT RAO:
SHRI K. RAMA MOHANA RAO:

Will the Minister of AGRICULTURE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the chilli farmers of Andhra Pradesh are distressed following a sudden steep fall in the price of its Byadigi variety; and

(b) if so, the measures proposed to help the farmers who took heavy loans and are unable to sell surplus yields?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF AGRICULTURE (SHRI HUKUMDEO NARAYAN YADAV): (a) No, Sir. As per information furnished by the State Government of Andhra Pradesh, the chilli farmers